GP 1112 Fitchett 11/22/93

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT Application of

Martin KADNER, et al.

Serial No. 08/039,498 Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: April 28, 1993 Examiner: Unknown

For: THE PROCESS FRO PRODUCING ALUMINIUM OXIDE

November 4, 1993

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Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants would like to bring to the Examiner's attention the documents which have been cited against counterparts of the present application.

In connection with PCT/EP 91/02057, the basis for the present application, the following were cited:

a. Published French Application FR-A-2,387,076.
U.S. Patent 4,285,645 is a counterpart.

b. Published German Application DE-A-2,942,768.
U.S. Patent 4,309,312 is a counterpart.

c. Published French Application FR-A-2,135,598.
U.S. Patent 4,043,507 is a counterpart.

d. Published German Application DE-A-1,803,724.
U.S. Patent 3,579,721 is a counterpart.

The German Patent Office cited:

e. U.S. Patent 4,198,318.

Copies of these documents are attached.

Applicants would note that, in U.S. Patent 4,198,318, claim 1 may be pertinent, in light of French Patent Application 2,387,076. However, the French application is not concerned with a method for producing aluminum oxide beads. It relates to micro-beads of uranium oxide. There

is no suggestion to use the known process for producing aluminum beads having a viscosity of 10 to 500 mPa's.

U.S. Patent 4,198,318 relates to a method for producing aluminum oxide beads by dropping a solution containing aluminum trichloride into a hot oil bath. Contrary to this, according to the present invention, aluminum oxide hydrosol droplets are generated by vibration, the droplets are presolidified by ammonia gas and then they are collected in an ammonia solution.

We request that these documents be considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,
CUSHMAN, DARBY & CUSHMAN

By _____
Lawrence A. Hymo
Reg. No. 19,057

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Tel. (202) 861-3015